MARVEL

ASTONISHING X-MEN #2

SOULE
DEODATO
MARTIN

SAY WHAT YOU WILL ABOUT THE X-MEN.

THEY FIGHT.

WELCOME, WELCOME. SO GLAD YOU COULD JOIN US.

BEFORE WE BEGIN, A WORD. THE STORY YOU ARE ABOUT TO SEE IS NOT ONE...

THEY WIN.

SLP

THEY LOSE.

...BUT *MANY*.

A TALE OF HEROES AND VILLAINS, OF POWER, OF SACRIFICE, OF GREAT LOVE AND GREAT LOSS.

THEY DIE.

IT IS NOT *ONE* STORY...

SLP

SLP

...BUT MANY.

IT IS THE STORY...

SAY THIS FOR THE MUTANTS...

...THEY PUT ON QUITE A SHOW.

...OF THE

X-MEN!

MM. HAVEN'T WE ALREADY *SEEN* THIS PLAY?

THE LIFE OF X

~DRAMATIS PERSONAE~

THE OLD MAN.....LOGAN
IRON IN VELVET.....ROGUE
ROGUE.....
THE CONTINENTAL.....FAN
THE BLUE ONE.....
CHORUS.....
THE MARTYR.....JAMES MA
THE RISEN PHOENIX.....CYCLO
DOC MYSTERY....PROF. CHARLES XAVIER

MAKING SOMETHING NEW IS RISKY. SAFER TO GO WITH WHAT'S *FAMILIAR.* COMFORT FOOD.

IF SOMETHING WORKS, DO IT AGAIN...UNTIL IT DOESN'T.

DON'T CARE IF IT'S NEW, ME. JUST HOPE IT'S *GOOD.* FOUR DOLLARS A TICKET!

AH, THAT'S CHEAP, REMY. I BET THEY'RE BARELY BREAKING EVEN.

YOU PAID FULL PRICE? *HA!* I *SNUCK* IN--AND I'M GLAD I DID.

BUT IT DOES LOOK A BIT *FAKE,* NO?

I MEAN... IS THAT A *VAMPIRE?*

EH, COME ON, McCOY. YOU EXPECT TOO MUCH.

LET'S JUST TRY TO ENJOY OURSELVES.

ACT I

ASTONISHING X-MEN

LIFE OF X
PART TWO

A SERIES OF BRUTAL ATTACKS ON THE WORLD'S PSYCHICS HAS BEEN TRACED BACK TO ITS SOURCE--THE HORRIBLE MIND-DEMON AMAHL FAROUK, THE SHADOW KING. POWERFUL MUTANT TELEPATH PSYLOCKE HAS GATHERED A GROUP OF MUTANTS TOGETHER IN LONDON IN HOPES OF BRINGING THE ATTACKS TO AN END BEFORE FAROUK IS ABLE TO POSSESS A PSYCHIC SUFFICIENTLY POWERFUL FOR HIM TO PLUNGE OUR WORLD INTO DARKNESS.

PSYLOCKE SENDS LOGAN, BEAST, ROGUE, GAMBIT AND FANTOMEX TO THE ASTRAL PLANE--REALITY-WARPING HOME OF THE SHADOW KING--TO FIND AND DEFEAT HIM, WHILE SHE REMAINS IN LONDON TO MAINTAIN THE NECESSARY MENTAL LINK BACK TO OUR WORLD. BISHOP AND ANGEL STAY BEHIND TO GUARD HER, PARTICULARLY IN THE WAKE OF SIGNIFICANT DAMAGE DONE TO THE CITY IN THE COURSE OF FENDING OFF THE SHADOW KING'S FIRST ATTACK. AND ON THE ASTRAL PLANE, THE EVIL FAROUK REVEALS THAT THERE IS YET ANOTHER PLAYER IN THIS GAME...LONG-DEAD FOUNDER OF THE X-MEN, PROFESSOR CHARLES XAVIER.

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I THINK I'VE GOT FANTOMEX, AT LEAST. I REALLY DO, CHARLES.

I KNOW, MY OLD FRIEND. THAT'S WHAT MAKES THIS SO *AMUSING.*

DON'T COUNT HIM OUT YET, FAROUK. HE PLAYS THE FOOL, BUT HE'S VERY RESOURCEFUL. THEY ALL ARE.

THEY *STRUGGLE,* LIKE THE WORM ON THE HOOK, PIERCED THROUGH, TWISTING, TWISTING.

THE WORM DOES NOT KNOW THAT ONLY TWO ENDS AWAIT--EITHER IT IS SWALLOWED BY A FISH, OR IT DIES FROM THE IMPALEMENT.

BUT I DO HOPE I GET TO SWALLOW SOME OF THEM.

IF NOT... WELL...SUCH A *WASTE,* DON'T YOU THINK?

I SUPPOSE. BUT THAT'S THE GAME.

AND A FINE GAME IT IS. PLAYING WITH LIVING MINDS... THERE'S *NOTHING* LIKE IT. BUT THEN, *YOU* KNOW THAT.

OH, YES. PUSHING AGAINST THE SURFACE TENSION OF A PERSON'S ILLUSIONS... IT'S EXHILARATING. ALWAYS HAS BEEN.

KNEEL BEFORE MAGNETO!

ESPECIALLY WITH *THIS* GROUP.

MM. YES. YOU *KNOW* THEM... BUT THAT DOESN'T MEAN YOU'LL BE ABLE TO WAKE THEM UP. I'VE SUNK THEM *DEEP.* OF COURSE, IF YOU CAN, WE'LL MOVE ON TO THE NEXT ROUND.

BUT IF YOU FAIL...

THEN THE BIG FISH SWALLOWS THEM. I MUST SAY--THIS IS EXCITING. IT'S BEEN TOO LONG SINCE OUR GAME HAD ACTUAL *STAKES.*

ALL RIGHT. THE STAGE IS SET. AND NOW...

...IT'S MY MOVE.

LONDON.

CAN YOU TELL WHAT'S HAPPENING IN THE ASTRAL PLANE, BETSY?

ARE OUR FRIENDS ALL RIGHT?

DON'T DISTRACT HER, ANGEL.

NO...IT'S... IT'S ALL RIGHT, BISHOP. I CAN'T REALLY *MOVE*, AND SURE AS HELL CAN'T *FIGHT*...

...BUT I CAN MAINTAIN THE LINK TO THE ASTRAL PLANE AND TALK AT THE SAME TIME.

AS FOR ROGUE AND THE OTHERS, THEY SEEM...ENGAGED. INTERESTED.

THAT'S GOOD, RIGHT? BETTER THAN IF THEY WERE TERRIFIED.

I DON'T KNOW, WARREN. THE SHADOW KING USUALLY BEGINS HIS ATTACK BY CREATING A REALITY FOR YOU THE MOMENT YOU ARRIVE IN HIS REALM.

SOMETIMES IT'S HORRIFYING, SOMETIMES IT'S YOUR GREATEST FANTASY--BUT IT'S ALWAYS *VIVID*. IT'S ALWAYS *REAL*.

IF YOU DON'T REALIZE WHAT'S HAPPENING--BREAK FREE OF THE ILLUSION--THAT'S IT. HE HAS YOU.

YOUR BODY WAKES UP HERE, UNDER HIS CONTROL. YOU'RE HIS PUPPET.

THIS WAS A BAD IDEA, PSYLOCKE. YOU NEED TO PULL THEM BACK OUT.

NO. WHATEVER'S HAPPENING, IT'S JUST BEGUN. LOGAN, ROGUE AND GAMBIT HAVE ALL BEEN ON THE ASTRAL PLANE BEFORE.

IF THEY CAN BREAK THROUGH THIS FIRST STAGE, THEY'LL BE OKAY. I CAN GUIDE THEM TO THE SHADOW KING. WE JUST NEED TO GIVE THEM TIME.

HOW MUCH? HOW LONG WILL IT TAKE?

AS LONG AS IT TAKES. THEY'RE NOT JUST FIGHTING FOR THEMSELVES--THEY'RE TRYING TO SAVE EVERYONE ON THE PLANET.

I'LL MAKE IT EVEN MORE CLEAR. AS LONG AS THEY'RE IN THERE, FAROUK ISN'T TRYING TO TAKE OVER ANOTHER PSYCHIC OUT HERE.

THERE'S NO CHOICE. EITHER THEY WIN, OR THEY DIE--BUT THEY'RE NOT COMING OUT.

LISTEN. I'M NOT BEING ***IRRATIONAL.*** I KNOW THE STAKES, BUT WE'RE RIGHT IN THE MIDDLE OF LONDON, UP HERE LIKE SITTING DUCKS.

WE DIDN'T EVEN TRY TO GET UNDERCOVER BEFORE WE SENT THE TEAM IN, AND PSYLOCKE ALMOST ***DESTROYED*** THIS CITY NOT TEN MINUTES AGO.

FOR GOD'S SAKE, BISHOP, I WAS POSSESSED BY THE SHADOW KING. I DIDN'T DO ***ANY*** OF THAT!

I GET IT, BETSY. I KNOW THAT.

BUT ***THEY*** DON'T.

MISFIT 2, THIS IS CONTROL. WHAT ARE YOU SEEING UP THERE? ANY ACTIVITY?

NEGATIVE, CONTROL. SUBJECTS HAVE GONE QUIET SINCE THE SPIDER MANIFESTATION DISAPPEARED.

FIVE OF THEM ARE LYING STILL ON THE ROOF OF THE SHARD. ASLEEP OR UNCONSCIOUS, MAYBE. THE OTHER THREE ARE UP AND ABOUT.

WE'RE GETTING A STRONG ENERGY SIGNATURE, TOO. REAL LIGHT SHOW. STILL TRYING TO ANALYZE IT.

ROYAL

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
SUPERHUMAN CRISIS COMMAND CENTER.

THAT'S FINE, MISFIT 2. JUST KEEP FEEDING US THE DATA. WE'RE BETTER EQUIPPED TO ANALYZE IT HERE, IN ANY CASE.

VERY GOOD, SIR. FURTHER ORDERS?

NONE FOR THE MOMENT. HOLD STATION, AND ALERT US IMMEDIATELY IF THE SITUATION DEVELOPS. EVEN THE TINIEST CHANGE. DO YOU UNDERSTAND?

YES, CONTROL. NOTED. MISFIT 2 OUT.

THE EVACUATION IS NEARLY COMPLETE, COMMANDER KEENE.

HOW FAR?

ALL CLEAR FOR A KILOMETER AROUND THE SHARD, SIR.

DOUBLE THAT--CONTINUE MOVING PEOPLE OUT UNTIL I TELL YOU TO STOP.

SIR, RESPECTFULLY, THIS IS AN EXTRAORDINARY EFFORT. I WONDER...

I WONDER AS WELL, SUPERINTENDENT BLAKE. I ***WONDER.***

OUR FILES SUGGEST THESE EIGHT INDIVIDUALS GENERALLY FALL ON THE HEROIC SIDE OF THE POWERED SPECTRUM. THEY DO MORE GOOD THAN BAD.

AND YET, WE ALSO HAVE REPORTS THAT ALL OF THEM...***TO A ONE***...HAVE ACTED, ON OCCASION, IN A MANNER RANGING FROM QUESTIONABLE TO EVIL.

I ***WONDER...*** WHO ARE THEY TODAY?

WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO, SIR?

THESE...***X-MEN...*** CAME TO ***OUR*** CITY. THEY WERE INVOLVED IN A PSYCHIC ATTACK THAT NEARLY LEVELED THE ENTIRE WHARF DISTRICT.

AND NOW THEY SIT ATOP THE SHARD, OFFERING NO EXPLANATION, LETTING US CLEAN UP THEIR MESS, DOING... ***SOMETHING.*** SUPERINTENDENT...

...WHAT DO YOU ***THINK*** I'M GOING TO DO?

OH, KITTY, I KNOW YOU LOVE ME-- WE MUST BE TOGETHER.

OH, PIOTR... YOU SEE RIGHT THROUGH ME. I *DO* LOVE YOU!

HNH. LAYING IT ON A LITTLE ***THICK,*** DON'T YOU THINK?

NOTHING WRONG WITH A LITTLE ***ROMANCE,*** *CHÈRE.*

BUT WE CAIN'T NEVER BE TOGETHER! FOR AH CANNOT TOUCH YOU...MY POWERS WOULD TAKE YOUR VERY LIFE, REMY!

I DO NOT CARE, MY LOVELY ROGUE. MY LIFE IS WORTHLESS WITHOUT YOU IN ANY CASE.

IS THAT... SUPPOSED TO BE ***US?***

MAIS LA! COLOSSUS DOING MY ACCENT...THAT'S ***UGLY*** UGLY. LIKE NAILS IN MY EARS. DON'T THINK HE'S CAPTURED MY...UNIQUE ***PATOIS.***

YOU MAY BE CORRECT, REMY, MY LOVE. WE MUST BE TOGETHER NO MATTER THE COST.

YES, MAH DARLIN', YES! YOU AND ME...WE'RE ***FOREVER!***

HA! THEY DIDN'T EVEN *NOTICE* YOUR LITTLE CHANGES, CHARLES. HAS YOUR TIME HERE LEFT YOU *WEAK?*

JUST GETTING STARTED, AMAHL. PROBING YOUR DEFENSES.

FOREVER? THAT'S NOT US. AIN'T BEEN US FOR A LONG TIME. WE HAD OUR TIME, WE GOT PAST IT...

YEH. WE ALWAYS HAVE THAT SPARK, BUT...

CONSIDER THIS, MY FRIEND. EVEN IF YOU BEAT ME HERE, IT ONLY DELAYS THE INEVITABLE. THEY WERE DEAD THE MOMENT THEY ENTERED MY REALM.

WHY NOT LET THEM GO *NOW,* BEFORE THE HORROR BEGINS?

THIS DON'T FEEL RIGHT. NOT ANYMORE.

THESE WERE ONCE MY STUDENTS... MY *FRIENDS.* FORGIVE ME IF I PREFER ANOTHER PATH.

BUT MORE IMPORTANT, THAT'S NOT WHAT WE AGREED TO. THAT'S NOT THE *GAME.*

NOOOOOO!

HNH. WAIT... THAT'S NOT HOW IT...

I KNOW. JUST SEEMS *WRONG*, DOESN'T IT?

HEH. I THINK I'VE GOT YOU, FAROUK.

BUT SOMETIMES, LOGAN...WRONG CAN BE *RIGHT.*

JEANNIE, WHAT ARE YOU--

SO *CONFIDENT*, CHARLES. I'M NOT DONE YET.

MMF!

MMMM...

THAT'S IT. HE'S MINE.

NOT...JUST... *YET...*

JEAN... YOU'RE... YOU'RE...

WHAT, BABY? DON'T YOU *LOVE* ME?

I DID... I DID, BUT... BUT THEN I...

I REMEMBER NOW. BACK WHERE I COME FROM...

...YOU'RE GONE. EVERYWHERE. YOU'RE GONE.

I'M SORRY, RED...

SNIKT

...YOU'RE DEAD.

NO. YOU WILL *NOT* BREAK FREE. YOU ARE *MINE*. YOU ARE ALL *MINE!*

X-MEN... ATTACK! THEY'VE KILLED JEAN!

WHAT IS THIS? WHAT'S *HAPPENING?*

THE SHADOW KING'S DOING IT--IT'S A *PROJECTION.*

IT'S NOT *REAL?* THEN WHY ARE WE *FIGHTING?*

YOU THINK THINGS HAVE TO BE *REAL* TO KILL YOU? NO, NOT HERE. NOT IN THIS PLACE.

AND IF YOU DIE HERE, YOU'RE *TRAPPED* HERE. *FOREVER!*

WE'RE FIGHTING *OURSELVES*-- OR AT LEAST OUR CLOSEST COLLEAGUES. WHAT DO YOU SUPPOSE THAT MEANS?

KRCK

DON'T *ANALYZE* 'EM, BEAST. KICK THEIR DAMN HEADS OFF!

AIN'T NO MYSTERY, HANK.

SLSH

SHADOW KING'S SHOWIN' US THE *FUTURE.*

WE DON'T KILL HIM...

"...WE'LL KILL EACH OTHER."

I CAN'T BELIEVE IT. IT ALL SEEMED SO ***REAL***. I EVEN KNEW TO ***EXPECT*** IT...AND STILL. IT ***HAD*** ME. IT HAD US ALL.

EXCEPT YOU, LOGAN. HOW'D YOU ***KNOW?***

TELL YOU IN A SECOND, ROGUE.

SNFF

CAN'T BELIEVE I DIDN'T NOTICE BEFORE. GUESS I WAS TOO ***DISTRACTED.*** BUT THEN I SAW THE WAY YOU ***FOUGHT...*** OR MORE LIKE THE WAY YOU ***DIDN'T.***

LOTS OF FAKE THINGS AROUND HERE, SEEMS LIKE.

HOORAY. YOU GOT ME.

MYSTIQUE? ALL ALONG? HOW DID I NOT *SEE* IT?

IT'S NOT COMPLICATED. I SHOWED YOU BEAST, YOU SAW BEAST.

I KNOW-- BUT I USE THIS TRICK *ALL* THE TIME...MY ILLUSIONS. I SHOULD HAVE *SEEN* IT.

YOU KNOW WHO'S EASIEST TO FOOL? PEOPLE WHO ARE *CERTAIN* THEY CAN'T BE FOOLED.

SHOOT HER, FANTOMEX-- RIGHT NOW. I MEAN IT.

ROUND ONE TO YOU, XAVIER.

I COULD HAVE TOLD YOU, FAROUK. NOSTALGIA, AS A TOOL, HAS ITS LIMITS.

BRILLIANT, ROGUE. START A FIGHT WITH *ME*, WHEN THE SHADOW KING IS ON THE VERGE OF STEALING OUR VERY *SOULS*. LOVELY WAY TO TREAT YOUR MOTHER.

YOU'RE NOT MY *MOTHER*. MAYBE YOU KEPT ME ALIVE WHEN I WAS YOUNGER, BUT THAT WAS JUST SO YOU COULD *USE* ME. ANY DEBT I EVER OWED YOU IS *LONG* PAID.

WHY ARE YOU EVEN *HERE?* YOU COULDA STAYED BACK WITH ANGEL AND BISHOP, STANDIN' GUARD. YOU HAD TO KNOW YOU'D GET CAUGHT.

GET *CAUGHT*, LEBEAU? BY *YOU?* PLEASE. YOU REMEMBER THAT NIGHT IN PHOENIX, WITH THE TWINS?

WAIT...*BOTH* OF THEM? HOW COULD YOU EVEN...? *HOW?*

I AM HERE BECAUSE, TO MY SORROW, I *KNOW* THE SHADOW KING. HE IS VILE. I DO NOT WANT HIS VILENESS TO INFECT OUR WORLD. I LIKE IT AS IT IS.

I KNOW ALL OF *YOU* AS WELL. NONE OF YOU ARE UP TO THE TASK OF STOPPING HIM. I NEEDED TO GET INVOLVED.

AND FINALLY, I SHOWED YOU *BEAST* BECAUSE YOU WOULD NOT HAVE ACCEPTED RAVEN DARKHOLME'S HELP. ALL RIGHT? YOU UNDERSTAND?

NOW, PLEASE, YOU IDIOTS, PERHAPS WE COULD FOCUS ON AN *ACTUAL* PROBLEM?

OH, WHAT THE HELL IS *THIS?*

AH, OUI. LE PROCHAIN CAUCHEMAR. FANTASTIQUE.

IT WAS NOT A COINCIDENCE THAT FAROUK GAVE US THAT ***PLAY.***

THIS IS ***ALL*** A PERFORMANCE.

YEAH, AND IT AIN'T A SOLO ACT. YOU DIDN'T FEEL IT? THERE WERE ***TWO*** MINDS THERE, EACH TRYING TO MAKE THEIR VERSION OF REALITY STICK.

THAT'S WHAT MADE ME REALIZE, AT THE END. THE WHOLE THING WAS FULL OF ***RED FLAGS,*** LIKE SOMEONE WAS SCREAMING AT US TO WAKE UP.

YES. IN RETROSPECT...ALL RATHER ***CLUMSY.*** AT THE END, WITH THE BATTLE...LIKE A DISTRACTION. A DESPERATE EFFORT TO PULL US BACK INTO THE SCENARIO.

AND WERE NOT MOST OF THE ACTORS ***DEAD?*** EVEN ***BEFORE*** THE ZOMBIES ARRIVED?

LOTS OF DEAD THINGS END UP IN THE ASTRAL PLANE. FOR ALL WE KNOW, THAT ***WAS*** SCOTT AND JEAN AND JAMIE.

DON'T LIKE THAT. DON'T LIKE THAT AT ***ALL.***

SO. THIS IS NOT A SHOW...BUT A GAME. A ***COMPETITION.*** ALLOW ME TO MAKE ANOTHER LEAP, *EH?* WE ARE NOT ***PLAYING.***

WE ARE THE ***PIECES.***

A DISTURBING REALIZATION. WE ARE BUT PAWNS. AND YET, THERE IS AN EVEN MORE ***IMPORTANT*** MATTER TO CONSIDER.

WHO HELPED US? WHO TRIED TO WAKE US UP? TO SAY IT ANOTHER WAY...AGAINST WHOM DOES THE SHADOW KING ***PLAY?***

THIS PERSON... THIS PERSON INTERESTS ME VERY MUCH. I THINK WE MUST HELP THEM ***WIN.***

MOVE THE ARM OR LOSE THE ARM, BUB.

I ACCEPT MY LOT. I AM BUT A TOOL. AS I CANNOT CHANGE THIS, I MUST MOVE FORWARD ALONG THE ONLY PATH THAT PRESENTS ITSELF.

DO YOU NOT AGREE, MYSTIQUE?

YES. YOU ***ARE*** A TOOL.

LET'S GO.

DO NOT USE THIS AS AN OPPORTUNITY TO ESCAPE YOUR OBLIGATIONS TO ME, *MONSIEUR.* I WILL FIND YOU, IN ***THIS*** LIFE OR THE--

I'LL RISK IT.

NNF!

THWD

WHAT?

ACTUALLY... NOTHING. WELL DONE.

YEAH. GOOD RIDDANCE.

YOU SEEM FRUSTRATED, FAROUK. FORGIVE ME FOR ASKING...BUT IF I DO WIN...WILL YOU HONOR THE TERMS OF OUR AGREEMENT?

SO LITTLE TRUST, CHARLES? I THINK I'M *OFFENDED.*

IF I DON'T UPHOLD OUR DEAL, YOU'LL NEVER PLAY WITH ME AGAIN! I WOULD *NEVER* RISK THAT. *NO ONE* PRESENTS A CHALLENGE LIKE YOU.

FANTOMEX IS A BASTARD, BUT HE'S RIGHT. SOMEONE'S FIGHTING THE SHADOW KING.

WE'RE NOT ALONE IN THIS. WHATEVER'S THROUGH THESE DOORS, TRY TO REMEMBER THAT.

FOR NOW, *WHOEVER* IT IS, WE KNOW ONE THING.

WHEN I WIN, THEIR SOULS ARE MY PRIZE, AND THEIR BODIES MY VESSELS.

BUT IF *YOU* WIN, SOMEHOW...

YOU'LL LET ME KILL THEM. GRANT THEM THE MERCY YOU WOULD NOT.

YES. THANK YOU.

AFTER ALL, THEY ARE MY X-MEN.

WE'RE ALL IN THIS TOGETHER.

TO BE CONTINUED...

HOUSE OF X

At any given day while walking down the HALLS OF X, I can't help but be amazed at all the uncanny stories our characters have been through. The sheer amount of imagination that's fueled epic missions, shocking demises, unexpected returns, tragic romances, jaw-dropping betrayals and acts of inspiring, selfless heroism is enough to power a small sun. As a reader I could hardly wait for the next issue. I'd scour the pages over and over for any hint or sign as to what might be in store for our misfortunate and misunderstood mutant heroes. I loved it when a writer, artist or editor would drop a subtle clue and get my speculative juices flowing.

In the past week I've walked down the Halls of X with some extremely imaginative storytellers. A few days ago, Greg Pak and Fred Van Lente came in to plan a special arc in WEAPON X. The next day Charles Soule came in to map out some amazing twists and turns coming in ASTONISHING X-MEN. About 24 hours ago, I met with a writer (who must remain anonymous) about some huge plans we have for the end of the year.

And, dear reader, I can't help but want to tell you about these incredible plans! I can, after all, appreciate a good near spoiler. But, alas, since I've taken an oath of secrecy I can only do my second favorite thing to editing X-Men comics and that's… to give you clues as to what's coming up in X-Men comics! For some arbitrary reason, let's do five:

Red!

Switch!

Mother!

Negative!

Seánce!

X-MEN GOLD:

By Marc Guggenheim and Lan Medina. Kitty Pryde takes charge and leads a new team into a heroic age!
Issue #10!

X-MEN BLUE:

By Cullen Bunn and Giovanni Valletta. The time-displaced original five join their greatest enemy, Magneto. Evil mutants, you're toast!
Issue #10!

WEAPON X:

By Greg Pak and Greg Land. The Weapon X program is back, but this time they are building weapons of mutant destruction. Old Man Logan, Sabretooth and a team of stealthy killers take the bloody battle back to them.
Issue #7!

ALL-NEW WOLVERINE:

By Tom Taylor and Leonard Kirk. A virus from another world threatens to wipe out mankind. Kicking off an epic tale that will take Laura Kinney to the stars.
Issue #23 on sale now!

GENERATION X:

By Christina Strain and Amilcar Pinna. Jubilee and a band of mutant misfits in the new Xavier Institute. What could go wrong? EVERYTHING!
Issue #6!

JEAN GREY:

By Dennis Hopeless and Victor Ibáñez. She's the leader of X-MEN BLUE, but what does she do in her spare time? What would you do if you had a premonition of the Phoenix Force returning?
Issue #4 on sale now!

CABLE:

By James Robinson and Carlos Pacheco. A new villain is traveling through time to assemble a doomsday weapon. Cable's most dangerous mission ever!
Issue #4!

ICEMAN:

By Sina Grace and Alessandro Vitti. The coolest hero on the planet, Bobby Drake the elder, in super-hero solo adventures.
Issue #4!

OLD MAN LOGAN:

By Ed Brisson and Mike Deodato Jr. The Maestro! Old Man Logan! Deodato! 'Nuff said!
Issue #27 on sale now!

ASTONISHING X-MEN:

By Charles Soule and a murderers' row of chart-topping and up-and-coming artists. Fan-favorite characters battle one of the X-Men's most dangerous foes!
Issue #3!

Make sure to let us know your thoughts. You can email us at officex@marvel.com (add "OKAY TO PRINT" in the subject line). And don't forget about #XMENMONDAY on Twitter, where I'll post some tidbit from one or more of the books and address your questions. I can't guarantee an answer for everybody, but I'll do my darndest!

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ZONE